



**STARTFORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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**MEDICAL OFFICER'S  
REPORT**

**for the Year ended  
31st December, 1967**

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**H. R. Morrison, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**



TO THE CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, of the  
STARTFORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year ended 31st December, 1967.

The mid-year population, as estimated by the Registrar General, was 4,010 the same as in 1966.

The total number of births was 61, there being 2 deaths of children under one year of age, and no maternal deaths during the year under review.

Deaths totalled 40 (48 in 1966) giving a death rate of 10.2 which is lower than that for England and Wales at 11.2

Principal causes of deaths were - 19 heart diseases (15 in 1966) 2 from cancer (7 in 1966) 9 from vascular lesions of the nervous system (11 in 1966) and 2 from respiratory disease other than tuberculosis (3 in 1966) other circulatory diseases 1, as against 7 in 1966.

36 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year, compared with 107 in 1966.

There were no notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis in the District during the year.

#### SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL, HOUSING AND WATER SUPPLY

These matters are dealt with by the Public Health Inspector in his report which follows at the end of my report. I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to him and other members of his staff for their co-operation and help.

H.R. Morrison,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.



PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health Dr. H.R. Morrison, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector C.D. Hunter, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.I.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District in acres	...	97,630
Resident Population, mid-year estimate	...	4,010
Number of inhabited houses	...	1,491
Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1967	...	£207,960
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	£839
Rate in £ levied at 1st April, 1967	...	10/10

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

The number of live births registered during the year was 61 as against 55 in 1966 (16.41) The birth rate comparisons show that the rate for the District is lower than that for the rest of England and Wales (17.2)

Birth Rate Comparisons

Live births per 1,000 population, as adjusted by Comparability Factor

Still births per 1,000 total live and still births

	<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Still Births</u>
1966 Startforth Rural District	14.8	-
1967 Startforth Rural District	16.41	16.00
1967 England and Wales	17.2	14.7

Analysis of Births

		1966		1967	
<u>Live Births</u>	...	M	F	M	F
Legitimate	...	31	24	39	20
Illegitimate	...	-	-	1	1
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		31	24	40	21
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Illegitimate Live Births = 3.3

Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births = 33.9

Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate live births = 00.00

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks) = 16.5 per thousand

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week) 16.5 total live births

Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) = 32

Still Births

		1966		1967	
		M	F	M	F
Legitimate	...	-	-	-	-
Illegitimate	...	-	-	1	-
		-	-	1	-

DEATHS

Maternal Mortality

No maternal deaths were registered in the District during the year as in the past 10 years.

Infantile Mortality

Two children under one year died in the District during 1967, the same number as in 1966.

Infantile Mortality Comparisons per 1,000 Live Births

Startforth Rural District 1966	...	36.36
Startforth Rural District 1967	...	33.0
England and Wales 1967	...	18.3

Deaths From All Causes

During 1967 there were 40 deaths from all causes registered in the District, as against 48 in 1966. The death rate being lower than that for England and Wales (11.2)

Death Rate Comparisons - Per 1,000 Population as Adjusted by  
Comparability Factor

Startforth Rural District 1966	...	12.21
Startforth Rural District 1967	...	10.2
England and Wales 1967	...	11.2

Causes of all Deaths - Compared with 1966

	1966		1967	
	M	F	M	F
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	-	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	2	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	2	-	-	1
Other Malignant and Lympathic Neoplasm	1	1	-	-
Leukemia	1	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	5	6	4	5
Coronary Disease, Angina	6	6	11	5
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	-	-	-
Other Heart Diseases	2	1	1	2
Other Circulatory Diseases	5	2	-	1
Bronchitis	1	1	-	-
Congenital Malformations	-	-	-	1
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	1	1	1	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	-	-	-
All other Accidents	1	-	1	-
Suicide	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	2	-
Diabetes	-	-	-	-
Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum	-	-	1	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-	1
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	28	20	22	18

Number of Deaths From the Seven Chief Causes, Rates and Comparisons With Previous Year

	Per 1,000 Population			
	1966		1967	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Cancer	7	1.75	2	0.49
Respiratory (non-tuberculosis)	3	0.74	2	0.49
Heart Diseases	15	3.74	19	4.73
Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis - Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-
Other Circulatory Diseases	7	1.75	1	0.24
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	11	2.74	9	2.24
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	43	10.72	33	8.19

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were 36 cases of notifiable and/or infectious diseases during 1967, as against 107 in 1966.

#### Analysis of Infectious Diseases and Comparisons with Previous Year

	1966	1967
	<u>No. of cases</u>	<u>No. of cases</u>
Scarlet Fever	...	-
Measles	...	107
Whooping Cough	...	-
Dysentery	...	-
	—	—
	107	36

### Tuberculosis

No new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified in 1967.

### Deaths from Tuberculosis

No deaths from this disease were registered in the district in 1967 as in 1966.

### Vaccination and Immunisation Against Smallpox, Diphtheria, and Pertussis, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis carried out During 1967

	<u>Vaccination</u>	<u>Re-vaccination</u>
	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Booster</u>
Smallpox	61	11
Diphtheria	79	122
Poliomyelitis	80	64

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT, 1946

Sections 22, 23, 24 and 25

Care of Mothers and Young Children, Domiciliary Midwifery, Health Visiting and Home Nursing.

The Infant Welfare Clinic held monthly at Barningham continued during the year. The District Medical Officer was in attendance as well as the District Nurse/Midwives. The Infant Welfare Clinic at Deerbolt is held fortnightly for the wives and children of army personnel with a District Nurse/Midwife in attendance. Unfortunately this Clinic had to close in November 1967 owing to the army unit leaving the area.

The following number of visits paid to patients in the district by the Nurse Midwife during 1967 under the respective categories are compared with those for 1966:-

<u>Category</u>		<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Domiciliary Midwifery	...	528	425
Home Nursing	...	1,688	1,120
Health Visiting	...	1,034	1,645

Section 27 Ambulance Service

This service is provided by the North Riding County Council from the Ambulance Station which has a staff of one Driver-Foreman, one Shift Leader and six Driver-Attendants.

Section 28 - Prevention of Illness. Care and After-Care

The work of vaccination and immunisation, together with the advice spread by those working in the Public Health Service, Inspectors, Midwives, Maternity and Child Welfare Officers, Doctors and Nurses, must have a beneficial effect on the general health of the community.

Meals on Wheels

A meals on wheels service is operated in the area and is organised by the W.V.S. 1,337 meals were served during 1967.

Section 29 - Domestic Home Help Service

This service is provided by the North Riding County Council and during 1967 17 cases received help, as compared with 14 in 1966, the analysis and comparison with 1966 being:-

<u>Category</u>	<u>Cases</u>		<u>Hours</u>	
	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Domiciliary Midwifery	...	1	1	15
Chronic Sick	...	13	16	3,762
Sick Housewife	...	-	-	-
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	<u>14</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>3,777</u>	<u>4,822</u>

CHIROPODY

The North Riding County Council employ a chiropodist to provide the service for aged people, expectant mothers, physically handicapped, and mentally disordered. Sessions are held at Bowes, Cotherstone and Romaldkirk as and when required.

The Public Health work of the District has been carried out as usual by Mr. C.D. Hunter, the Public Health Inspector, who has compiled the remainder of this report.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS

Total Number of Inspections for Nuisances only ..	38
Total Number of Nuisances Found .. .. .. ..	11
Number abated by Informal Action .. .. .. ..	9
Number Abated by Statutory Action .. .. .. ..	2

PUBLIC CLEANSING

A scavenging service continued to operate throughout the area during 1967. Only a small number of the most remote and inaccessible properties were not served. A weekly collection from the back door is provided for almost all premises, although a few of the farmsteads lying outside the main centres of population are visited less frequently by arrangement and some are required to bring their refuse container to the farm entrance.

All refuse is conveyed to one refuse tip which is situated near the village of Mickleton; unfortunately this is at one end of the district but the journeys have been so arranged as to minimise the dead mileage. So far as is possible tipping is carried out in accordance with Ministry of Health Recommendations.

One rear loading vehicle and one side loading vehicle are regularly used on the collection service together with four men and one old vehicle is kept available for emergency use. A fifth man is employed on tip dressing, and on relief duties. The annual cost of the service is £5,775. 0. 0.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

<u>Inspections</u>	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority .. .. .. ..	13	19
Factories not included above in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority .. .. .. ..	8	15
Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority .. .. .. ..	2	5

Cases in Which Defects Were Found

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Remedied	Referred			
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector		
Sanitary Conveniences						
Unsuitable or Defective	1	1	-	-	-	

Outworkers

One outworker is registered for the making, etc, of wearing apparel.

OFFICE SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

(1) Class of Premises	(2) Number of premises registered during the year.	(3) Total Number of registered premises at end of year	(4) Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	1	2	2
Retail shops	-	2	2
Wholesale shops, warehouse	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens.	-	6	6
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>

The number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises was 13

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The following establishments are registered under the Food Hygiene Regulations 1960.

Category	Number of Premises	Number complying with Regulation 16	Number to which Regulation 19 applies	Number complying with Regulation 19
Grocer and General Store	14	14	14	13
Cafes and Restaurants	3	3	3	3
Butchers Shops	1	1	1	1
Hotels and Inns	16	16	16	16
Licensed Clubs	3	3	3	3

Eleven of the above shop premises are registered to store ice cream for sale and all of these retail pre-packed ice cream only.

Three privately owned slaughterhouses are registered and 356 visits for meat inspection were made during the year. The tables overleaf show the details of the carcasses inspected during the year.

The total weight of meat condemned was 594 lbs, a very small proportion of the whole.

DETAILS OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AND EXAMINED - 1967

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	510	-	447	1,727	150	-
Number Inspected	510	-	447	1,727	150	-
<u>All diseases except</u> <u>Tuberculosis and</u> <u>Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	8	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	23	-	5	32	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	4.5	-	1.11	1.85	-	-
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

### CARAVAN SITES

The total number of licensed sites at the end of the year 1967 was 21. With two exceptions these sites are for very small numbers of caravans (less than five) and little difficulty is experienced in their control.

One large site at Startforth accommodates a maximum of 200 caravans. This site provides holiday accommodation only - no residential vans are permitted. The standard of cleanliness is very high and no difficulty is experienced in enforcing the licence conditions on the site. A smaller site for 30 caravans has been established in Mickleton, it is anticipated that this will be increased to a maximum of 60 in due course. Planning consent has been given and the licence issued for a site for a maximum of 60 caravans near Winston Bridge. At the present time this site is being developed but no caravans are yet on the site, it is not likely to come into use before late 1968 at the earliest.

### SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Council now possess satisfactory sewerage systems at Cotherstone, Mickleton, Barningham, Startforth, Romaldkirk, Bowes, Boldron and Ovington.

Only Hutton Magna and Lartington remain as requiring the provision of new schemes and both of these are small villages with populations under 100. Preparations are in hand for the former, where the use of extended aeration treatment plant is envisaged.

The Council's septic tank and cesspool emptying service has continued to operate satisfactorily during the year although a degree of difficulty was experienced with the restrictions associated with the foot and mouth disease outbreak because it was desirable to reduce the number of journeys onto or across agricultural land.

### WATER SUPPLY

The water supplies throughout the area are under the control of the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board. No new schemes were implemented during 1967 but two schemes are under active consideration by the Board: one of these is to augment the supply to the Bowes/Boldron area and the other to provide a new supply to Brignall and an improved supply to Barningham.

A total of 52 samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the year; of these 17 were unsatisfactory, largely from private supplies. Advice as to remedial measures was offered in these latter cases.

In addition to the foregoing the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board carry out regular routine examinations of all the supplies under their control, both bacteriologically and chemically. No chemical analyses have been made on the samples taken by the department and I am indebted to the Water Board's Chemist for the information given overleaf which represents the average figure of a number of chemical analyses of the public supplies. Figures given are expressed as parts per million except where otherwise stated.

One thousand and thirty nine houses are connected to the public mains in the area and a total of four hundred and fifty two are dependent on private supplies of varying sorts, primarily springs. An analysis of these figures is given in the second table overleaf.

#### HOUSING

The Council owns eighty-six houses and twenty-four bungalows.

Plans were prepared for the erection of ten houses at Startforth and tenders were considered in the summer of 1967 for the construction of these. Unfortunately, the Council came to the reluctant conclusion that the probable rents would be beyond the means of the predominantly low-paid workers of the district and they therefore decided to abandon the scheme.

During the year applications have been approved for both standard and discretionary grants. Ten standard grants were approved and twelve discretionary grants. The total number of grants approved since the introduction of the schemes is two hundred and eighty three. The average figure paid during the year for standard grants was £144. 6. 1. and for discretionary grants £380. 0. 0. In view of the small local building force available it is felt that progress with improvement schemes is satisfactory although the fall-off in numbers of schemes approved noticed in 1966 has continued in 1967 and would seem to call for some further incentive.

#### RCDENT CONTROL

During the year a total of 13 treatments for the elimination of rats and mice was carried out using the principles laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food.

ANALYSES OF WATER SUPPLIES

AVERAGES FOR THE YEAR 1967

Results expressed as parts per million

RESULTS AS ppm	Lartington mixed final water	Barnard Castle Urban District Reservoir Startforth Village	Hunderthwaite Village	Holwick	Bowes- Boldron	Barningham Village
	0.022 0.057 <0.001 0.75	0.018 0.068 <0.001 <0.25	0.010 0.028 0.001 <0.41	0.028 0.109 <0.001 <0.25	0.029 0.033 0.002 0.26	0.029 0.081 0.001 0.25
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.6	4.5	0.5	1.6		
Albuminoid Nitrogen	2.9	28	<5	9		
Nitrite Nitrogen	3.3	6.1	3.1	5.5		
Nitrate Nitrogen	7.4	7.3	6.9	7.4		
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate )	2.5	20	2.9	1.9		
in 4 hrs. at 27°C.	2.5	20	2.9	1.9		
Colour (Hazen)	27	74	74	119		
Turbidity as Silica	64	151	151	119		
pH	64	12	11	10		
Free Carbon Dioxide	27	162	162	129		
Alkalinity as $\text{CaCO}_3$	28	76	79	112		
Carbonate Hardness as $\text{CaCO}_3$	55	64	76	17		
Non-Carbonate Hardness as $\text{CaCO}_3$	47	12	23	10		
Total Hardness as $\text{CaCO}_3$	8	10	11	13		
Calcium Hardness as $\text{CaCO}_3$	13	11	11	17		
Magnesium Hardness as $\text{CaCO}_3$	2	7	<0.04	8		
Chlorides as Cl	2	0.06	0.16	0.07		
Silicate as $\text{SiO}_2$	0.17	1.1	1.9	0.9		
Iron as Fe	0.7	5.9	2.1	6.2		
Potassium as K	4.2	7.0	5.8	169		
Sodium as Na	95	111	123	461		
Total solids dried at 105°C.	0.25	205	0.1	0.4	0.1	
Fluoride content	130	320	185	675	255	
Conductivity (micro-ohms) 20°C	175					

PROPERTIES SUPPLIED WITH WATER  
FROM PUBLIC MAINS SUPPLIES

Parish	Population (Estimated)	No. of Dwellings	No. of Dwellings With Mains Water	Population supplied With Mains Water (Estimated)
Barforth	102	34	10	27
Barningham	188	69	57	156
Boldron	99	40	25	68
Bowes	478	158	99	276
Brignall	98	23	2	5
Cotherstone	513	237	213	447
Egglestone Abbey	30	7	6	25
Gilmonby	52	19		52
Holwick	122	44	15	41
Hope	15	5		15
Hunderthwaite	132	49	13	36
Hutton Magna	102	37	22	60
Lartington	146	53	29	80
Lunedale	130	49		130
Mickleton	405	169	127	290
Ovington	145	51	51	145
Rokeby	97	38	9	24
Rcmaldkirk	154	82	78	140
Scargill	55	16		55
Startforth	896	264	248	852
Wycliffe-with- Thorpe	151	47	35	120
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4,110</b>	<b>1,491</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>3,044</b>



